



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region



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20 June 2005

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY OF RESOLUTION NO. R5-2003-0106 GRANITE SPRINGS WINERY, EL DORADO COUNTY

Regional Board staff has reviewed your 30 September 2004 Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) and subsequent information submitted on 8 June 2005 for coverage under Resolution No. R5-2003-0106, *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries, Within the Central Valley Region*. The RWD included a filing fee of \$872. Our review finds the RWD to be complete.

Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 (a copy of which is enclosed), adopted by the Regional Board on 11 July 2003, is a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for small food processors including wineries. Based on the information you have submitted, the discharge as described in the RWD satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the projected volume of wastewater to be produced.

Discharge Description

Latcham Granite, Inc. (Discharger) owns Granite Springs Winery at 5050 Granite Springs Winery Road in Somerset, El Dorado County. The site includes an operating winery and tasting room and an existing 25-acre vineyard. In 2004, the Discharger crushed approximately 208 tons of grapes. The winery produces approximately 14,000 cases (approximately 33,300 gallons) of wine per year. The facility currently has a stormwater permit (WDID # 5S095014153). However, the Discharger has recently made some modifications so that all activities producing process wastewater or solid waste will be conducted under the cover of an enclosed building or roofing. Therefore, a Notice of Non Applicability of the General Stormwater Permit has also been submitted.

In the past, process wastewater has been discharged to an on-site septic system. However, the Discharger recently installed a 1,000-gallon below ground poly storage tank, which now accepts all process wastewater. From the storage tank, the wastewater is loaded into an application trailer for discharge on the vineyard. Weather permitting, the storage tank is emptied daily in order to avoid the creation of nuisance conditions. The wastewater is distributed as evenly as possible over the entire 25-acre vineyard, but with at least a seven-day rest period between wastewater applications to any one area. Wastewater is not applied during periods of precipitation, when soil is saturated, or when there is standing water in the application area.

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Process wastewater is transported to the vineyard in a trailer-mounted tank, and application is made either directly from the trailer through a pipe manifold during the dry season, or, if the soil is wet and soft, through a three-inch hose, which allows a worker to apply between the vines.

Solid waste produced by the facility consists of grape stems and pomace (skins, seeds, and grape solids). Stems are temporarily stored on site after each batch of processing and then hauled to the vineyard and spread along the vineyard access road. Pomace is either placed in watertight bins or in the application trailer. At the end of each day, the pomace is transported to the vineyard and distributed evenly between the vines. Any solids containing free liquids are sent to the liquid wastewater storage tank for application with the liquid wastewater.

The Discharger has estimated the maximum volume and strength of wastewater and solid waste that will be produced and has calculated the expected maximum hydraulic and agronomic loading rates for the proposed disposal area. Based on these calculations, the disposal area (25 acres of wine grape vines) should have adequate hydraulic and nutrient uptake capacity to receive the total process wastewater and solid waste from this facility and remain protective of groundwater and surface water quality. The Discharger has identified several Best Management Practices that will be followed in order to minimize wastewater strength and potential odor problems, and to prevent hydraulic or nutrient overloading. The estimated volume of wastewater used to calculate the maximum loading rates was 66,000 gallons per year. An in-line flow meter was recently installed between the winery and the storage tank so that, in the future, wastewater flow will be accurately measured.

Conditional Waiver

Based on the information submitted in the RWD and subsequent technical reports, the discharge as described above satisfies the general and specific conditions of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 for the current amount of wastewater produced. Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 is applicable and waste discharge requirements for this facility are waived.

Enclosed is a copy of Resolution No. R5-2003-0106 and the associated monitoring and reporting program. As described therein, an annual monitoring report that contains the information described in Items No. 2 and 5 of the monitoring and reporting program must be submitted by **1 February** of each year.

If the discharge violates the terms or conditions of the waiver, the Regional Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. If the method of winery wastewater and solids disposal change from those described in the RWD, you must submit a new RWD. Please note that the waiver will expire on 11 July 2008, at which time you must submit a new RWD with a filing fee to renew the waiver, or cease the discharge. **If your total annual flow exceeds 100,000 gallons per year, the waiver is no longer applicable to your facility and you must submit a new RWD for individual Waste Discharge Requirements.**

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Kranhold at (916) 464-4689.

Jon Latcham
Granite Springs Winery

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20 June 2005

--Original Signed By--

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer

encl: Resolution No. R5-2003-0106

cc: w/o encl El Dorado County Environmental Health Department, Placerville
Dan Hinrichs, DHH Engineering, Placerville